

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SR-02 IO-10 H-01 L-02 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7959

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 1289

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, TU

SUBJ: CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON REFUGEE AND MIGRATION
ASSISTANCE

REF: GENEVA 807

1. THE MFA HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GIVE US AN OVERALL BUDGET FIGURE COVERING GOT EXPENDITURES FOR REFUGEE ASSISTANCE. PORTIONS OF THE BUDGETS OF SEVERAL DIFFERENT MINISTRIES COULD BE INVOLVED (E.G., MINRECONSTRUCTION ALLOCATED \$21.2 MILLION FOR "HOUSING AND SERVICES FOR RESETTLED PERSONS" AND MINVILLAGES \$7.9 MILLION FOR "RESETTLEMENT AND RURAL SETTLEMENT"), BUT THERE ARE NO SEPARATE BUDGETARY CATEGORIES FOR REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PER SE. (COMMENT: IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THESE FUNDS ARE MOSTLY FOR THE RESETTLEMENT OF TURKISH NATIONALS WITHIN TURKEY.)

2. THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UN HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES TOLD US THAT MOST REFUGEES WHO COME TO TURKEY DO NOT RPT NOT SETTLE HERE, BUT MOVE ON TO A THIRD COUNTRY FOR RESETTLEMENT. THERE IS A REFUGEE CENTER NEAR ISTANBUL, BUT THE EXPENSES OF MAINTAINING MOST PERSONS WHILE THERE ARE USUALLY MET BY THE US REFUGEE PROGRAM AND THE UNHCR. HE ADDED THAT THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE BUDGET IN PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS HAS PROVIDED AN ESTIMATED \$3,600 TO THE TURKISH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY FOR FREE MEDICAL CARE TO REFUGEES WHO RESETTLE
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IN TURKEY.

MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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